

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Delete the paragraphs beginning at page 6, line 5 to page 10, line 25 of the specification.

Page 11, after line 6, insert the following:

Fig. 3 is a cross-sectional view of one embodiment of the anti-glare film of the present invention.

Fig. 4 is cross-sectional view of another embodiment of the anti-glare film of the present invention.

Fig. 5 is a cross-sectional view of yet another embodiment of the anti-glare film of the present invention.

Insert the following paragraphs after line 17 at page 12 of the specification:

The anti-glare film isotropically transmits and scatters an incident light to show the maximum value of the scattered light intensity at a scattering angle of 0.1 to 10° (preferably 1 to 10°), and has a total light transmittance of 70 to 100% (preferably 80 to 100%). That is, a light transmitted and scattered through the anti-glare layer (transmitted scattered-light) has a scattering peak separated from a rectilinear transmitted light. The anti-glare film may have a visibility of a transmitted image of about 70 to 100% measured by an image clarity measuring apparatus provided with an optical slit of 0.5 mm width, and may have a haze of about 10 to 60% (preferably about 20 to 50%).

The anti-glare layer comprises at least one polymer and at least one curable resin precursor, and in the layer, at least two components selected from the group consisting of the polymers and the

precursors (for example, (i) a plurality of polymers, (ii) a combination of a polymer and a curable resin precursor, or (iii) a plurality of curable resin precursors) are/is phase-separated by spinodal decomposition from a liquid phase, and the precursor is cured (or hardened).

The polymer may comprise a plurality of polymers being phase-separable from each other by spinodal decomposition (for example, a combination of a cellulose derivative with a styrenic resin, a (meth)acrylic resin, an alicyclic olefinic resin, a polycarbonate-series resin, a polyester-series resin, and the like), and the curable resin precursor being compatible with at least one polymer of the plurality of polymers.

At least one polymer of the plurality of polymers may have a functional group (for example, a polymerizable group such as a (meth)acryloyl group) participating in (or associating with) a curing reaction of the curable resin precursor. The curable resin precursor may comprise, for example, an epoxy (meth)acrylate, a urethane (meth)acrylate, a polyester (meth)acrylate, a silicone (meth)acrylate, a polyfunctional monomer having at least two polymerizable unsaturated bonds, and others.

Incidentally, the thermoplastic resin and the curable resin precursor are usually incompatible with each other. Further, hardcoat properties (or abrasion resistance) may be imparted to the anti-glare layer by the cured resin, or the anti-glare layer may have a regular or periodical phase-separation structure fixed by the cured resin. The anti-glare layer may, for example, be cured with a curing (or hardening) means such as an actinic ray (e.g., an ultraviolet ray, an electron beam), a thermal source, and other means. Moreover, the anti-glare layer usually comprises a polymer and a cured resin, and the weight ratio of the former relative to the latter may be about 5/95 to 60/40.

The low refraction index layer may be formed with a resin having a refraction index of 1.36 to 1.49. The low refraction index layer may comprise a fluorine-containing compound (e.g., a fluorine-containing resin precursor, or a cured fluorine-containing resin precursor). Moreover, the low refraction index layer may comprise a curable fluorine-containing resin precursor, and the precursor may be cured with at least one curing means selected from the group consisting of an actinic ray and a thermal source.

The anti-glare film may comprise an anti-glare layer and a low refraction index layer, or may comprise a transparent support (or substrate) (e.g., a transparent polymer film for forming an optical member), an anti-glare layer formed on the transparent support (or substrate), and a low refraction index layer formed on the anti-glare layer.

In the present invention, an optical member (or a laminated optical member) can be obtained by laminating the anti-glare film on at least one light path surface (or one side) of an optical element (such as a polarizing plate). The optical member ensures prevention of dazzle and an exterior light reflection on a display surface and impartment of high abrasion resistance to the optical element (such as a polarizing plate) by using the anti-glare film instead of a protective film for the optical element (e.g., a protective film for both sides of a polarizing plate). The film of the present invention is, accordingly, also preferably utilized for a display device or apparatus such as a liquid crystal display apparatus, a plasma display and a touch panel-equipped input device.

The present invention also includes a composition for an anti-glare film which comprises at least one polymer and at least one curable resin precursor, and in which at least two components selected from the group consisting of the polymers and the precursors are phase-separable by spinodal decomposition from a liquid phase. The composition may comprise a plurality of polymers being phase-separable by spinodal decomposition, and the curable resin precursor being

compatible with at least one polymer of the plurality of polymers. At least one polymer of the plurality of polymers may have a functional group participating (or reacting) in a curing reaction of the curable resin precursor.

A process for producing the anti-glare film comprising at least an anti-glare layer may, for example, comprise forming a phase separation structure by spinodal decomposition from a liquid phase, curing the resin precursor to form the anti-glare layer, and the liquid phase contains at least one polymer, at least one curable resin precursor, and a solvent. The above-mentioned spinodal decomposition from a liquid phase may be carried out by evaporating the solvent. For forming a phase separation structure, (i) a plurality of polymers, (ii) a combination of a polymer and a curable resin precursor, or (iii) a plurality of curable resin precursors may be used. The process may comprise phase-separating a composition comprised of a thermoplastic resin, a photo-curable compound (such as a photo-curable monomer or oligomer), a photopolymerization initiator, and a solvent (common solvent) for dissolving the thermoplastic resin and the photo-curable compound; and curing the resin precursor by a light irradiation.

Moreover, the process may comprise phase-separating a composition comprised of a thermoplastic resin, a resin being incompatible with the thermoplastic resin and having a photo-curable group, a photo-curable compound, a photopolymerization initiator, and a solvent for dissolving the resin and the photo-curable compound; and curing the resin precursor by a light irradiation. In these processes, at least one anti-glare layer may be formed on a transparent support, and a resin layer having a low refraction index may be formed on the anti-glare layer.

Amend the paragraph beginning at line 19 of page 57 as follows:

According to the present invention, as shown in Figures 3-5, an anti-glare film 5 comprises an anti-glare layer 6 having a phase separation structure utilizing spinodal decomposition, and a resin layer 7 having a low refraction index. Thus, the anti-glare film improves anti-glareness, and prevents reflection of a surrounding scenery and dazzle (or glare) on a display surface even in a high definition display apparatus. Also, the anti-glare film inhibits or suppresses reflection of an exterior light on the display surface. Moreover, the present invention provides an anti-glare film being capable of preventing blur of images in a display surface even in a high definition display apparatus, and having less-whitish to improve contrast of the image. Further, the anti-glare film can be enhanced in abrasion resistance and can efficiently control the intensity distribution of the transmitted scattered-light.

Add the following new paragraph after line 8 at page 58:

Further, the anti-glare film 5 of the present invention may comprise an anti-glare layer 6 and a resin layer 7 formed on a transparent support 8 in that order (Figure 4). The anti-glare film 5 may also be laminated on at least one side of a polarizing plate 9.